Summary

The invention relates in particular to a process for the determination of the PMD-induced outage probability of an optical transmission system.

For this purpose the invention proposes a process whereby during a specified/specifiable observation period (T_{total}), the polarization states of the optical transmission system and/or the optical signals transmitted by the optical transmission system are changed by applying a targeted intervention in at least one position of the transmission line (10, 11, 12, 13a, 13b, 14, 15, 20), and at a second position which is interposed at least one place downstream from the first position of the optical transmission line (10, 11, 12, 13a, 13b, 14, 15, 20), a specified/specifiable signal characteristic (BER) is qualitatively measured and checked for it adherence to a specified/specifiable threshold condition (BER_{th}) and the PMD-induced outage probability of the optical transmission system is calculated on the basis of the ratio between the length of that share of the time (T_{out}), during which the measured signal characteristic fails to meet the threshold condition (BER_{th}), to the length of the observation period (T_{total}).

(Fig. 1)